

### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-9 remain pending in the present application.

By way of summary, the Official Action presents the following issues: Claims 1-2 and 5-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0056404 A1, hereinafter “Kuriya”) in view of Natsuno et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0194474 A1, hereinafter “Natsuno”); Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya in view of Natsuno and Flanagin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,128,661, hereinafter “Flanagin”); Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya in view of Natsuno, Flanagin, and Takeuchi (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0134615 A1, hereinafter “Takeuchi”); and Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya in view of Natsuno, Takeuchi, and Kunigita (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0078723 A1, hereinafter “Kunigita”).

### STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Applicants and Applicants’ representative thank Examiner Vu for the courtesy of the telephonic interview extended on May 1, 2009. During the interview, the finality of the Official Action mailed April 24, 2009, was discussed. Examiner Vu explained that the Official Action included a final rejection of Claims 1-9.

### REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(A)

Claims 1-2 and 5-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya in view of Natsuno. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent Claim 1 recites an information-processing apparatus, including, in part, “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data, when the receiving means receives request data . . . including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data . . . .” Applicants respectfully submit that Kuriya and Natsuno fail to disclose or suggest those features.

Kuriya concerns a system including a manager server and a mobile telephone, in which, “In step S4105, . . . the mobile telephone 11 sends a request (including the user ID and the content ID of the content to be checked in) . . . to the manager server 14 . . . .”<sup>1</sup> Further to Kuriya, “In step S4206, the content management program 154 [of the manager server 14] deletes the device ID corresponding to the content ID included in the received check-in request . . . .”<sup>2</sup>

That is, Kuriya merely describes deleting a device ID upon reception of a check-in request including a user ID and a content ID. Kuriya does not describe deleting the user ID or the content ID included in the check-in request. Applicants respectfully submit that Kuriya fails to disclose or suggest “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data . . . , when the receiving means receives request data . . . including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data,” as recited in Claim 1.

Further, Applicants note that the Office makes reference to Kuriya step S4106, in which “the content management program 144 of the mobile telephone 11 deletes the content from the storage block 39.”<sup>3</sup>

As noted above, the check-in request includes the user ID and the content ID, but does not include the contents themselves. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Kuriya fails to disclose or suggest “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data . . . , when the

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<sup>1</sup> Kuriya, para. [0320].

<sup>2</sup> Id., para. [0324]; id., Fig. 7.

<sup>3</sup> Official Action at 5, ll. 19-20; Kuriya, para. [0320].

receiving means receives request data . . . including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data,” as recited in Claim 1.

Applicants also note that the Office states that “It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the service ID data deleted before the apparatus ID data.”<sup>4</sup> Applicants respectfully submit that the explanation provided in the Official Action is deficient inasmuch as it fails to explain why one of ordinary skill in the art would modify the single deletion performed by the Kuriya management server to delete additional data. It is therefore submitted that the Office has engaged in impermissible hindsight in contravention of MPEP § 2145 X A. Applicants respectfully submit that Kuriya fails to disclose or suggest “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data,” as recited in Claim 1.

Turning to Natsuno, that reference concerns a “UIM 12 [that] deletes the program in the basic block specified by the program deletion request.”<sup>5</sup> The Office does not rely on Natsuno for providing the above-noted features lacking in Kuriya.<sup>6</sup> Applicants respectfully submit that Natsuno fails to remedy the above-noted deficiencies in Kuriya.

Thus, Kuriya and Natsuno, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data, when the receiving means receives request data . . . including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data,” as recited in Claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Office has not produced a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to the feature of “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data, when the receiving means receives request data . . . including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data,” as recited in Claim 1.

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<sup>4</sup> Official Action at 8, ll. 16-17.

<sup>5</sup> Natsuno, para. [0138].

<sup>6</sup> Official Action at 6-7.

Accordingly, it will be appreciated that Applicants have no obligation to submit evidence of nonobviousness, in accordance with MPEP § 2142.

It is further submitted that independent Claims 5-7 are allowable for the same reasons as discussed above with regard to Claim 1 and for the more detailed features presented in those claims.

Independent Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya in view of Natsuno and Flanagin.

Claim 3 recites an information-processing system, including an information-processing apparatus having, in part, “deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data after deleting the service ID data, when the receiving means receives request data . . . including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data . . . .”

Applicants respectfully submit that, as discussed above, Kuriya and Natsuno fail to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to that feature. Applicants further submit that Flanagin fails to remedy the above-noted deficiencies in Kuriya and Natsuno. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Office has also failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness with regard to the features of independent Claim 3. Thus, it will be appreciated that Applicants are under no obligation to submit evidence of nonobviousness, in accordance with MPEP § 2142.

Dependent Claims 4 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kuriya and Natsuno in combination with Flanagin, Takeuchi, and Kunigita. It is respectfully submitted that Flanagin, Takeuchi, and Kunigita fail to remedy the above-noted deficiencies in Kuriya and Natsuno. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections of dependent Claims 4 and 9 are moot.

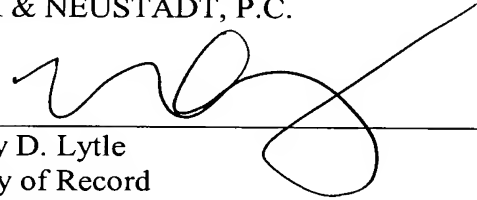
Should the above distinctions be found unpersuasive, Applicants respectfully request that the Office provide an explanation via Advisory Action pursuant to MPEP § 714.13 specifically rebutting the points raised herein for purposes of facilitating the appeal process.

CONCLUSION

Consequently, in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the present application, including Claims 1-9, is patentably distinguished over the cited art and is in condition for allowance. Such an allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Lytle', is written over a horizontal line.

Bradley D. Lytle  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413-2220  
(OSMMN 08/07)

Brian R. Epstein  
Registration No. 60,329